

RUNWAY SAFETY BULLETIN NO. 15

March 22, 2005

TO: All Towered Airports
All ATCTs

FROM: Manager, Runway Safety Program
Southern Region

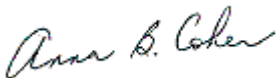
Runway Safety is no accident -It's Everyone's Responsibility!

Springtime is upon us, which means good weather and a lot of airport construction. As a result of the 2000 crash of Singapore Airlines, B-747 at Taipei, in which the pilot took off on a closed runway and collided with construction equipment, this is a reminder for heightened awareness concerning the impact of construction activity and safe aircraft operations on airports.

Construction activity adjacent to movement areas disrupts normal taxi routes and can contribute to pilot deviations and accidents. Closed taxiways/runways can easily cause pilot and vehicle driver confusion if barricades are not adequate and/or there are improper lighting and signages. This can be misleading and confusing, thus causing a surface incident or accident. Airport operators are reminded that they should ensure construction areas are properly marked, lighted and are NOTAMed. They should also ensure that construction vehicles and equipment follow and/or remain in the designated areas and clear of all taxiing aircraft.

Additionally, springtime is also a great time for airports to sponsor Air Shows. Airport operators must prepare a Vehicle Operations Plan for approval prior to being issued an FAA Certificate of Waiver or Authorization. With the good weather, construction activities and airshows, there will be more vehicles and pedestrian on the airfield. To reduce the possibilities of vehicle/pedestrian deviations, we ask that airport operators ensure the following:

- Construction NOTAMs are coordinated and delivered to all tenants
- Airport diagrams are current and correct
- Airport rules and regulations are reviewed regarding driving on the movement area. Make changes or enhancements as needed
- Potential runway incursion high alert areas or confusing areas on the airfield are reviewed. Coordinate changes with tower personnel and discuss with tenants/users
- Monthly safety/construction meetings are held regularly to discuss activities and get input from the users
- Procedures for tug drivers, contractors, and emergency operations personnel (fire trucks, etc.) are reviewed
- Involve everyone in spreading the runway safety message and being a part of the solution!



Anna B. Cohen